

March 2, 1973

(Start or Belt #8)

CLERK: Read title. LB 453. Mr. President, Senator Warner I don't believe has arrived yet.

SPEAKER: All right. Pass over 453 and move on to 173. General File consideration of LB 173.

CLERK: Read title. LB 173. There are committee amendments by Senator Kennedy's Public Health Committee.

SPEAKER: Is Senator Kennedy in the chamber? Senator Maresh, do you want to handle the Committee amendments.

SENATOR MARESH: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, there was some problem as to who shall the bear the cost of those children that the parents or guardian cannot afford this cost and that is what the amendment does. It says that the...Nebraska Department of Health will bear the cost as far as the funds are available. Mr. President, I move that his amendment be adopted.

SPEAKER: Any further discussion of the Committee Amendment? Senator Kennedy, we are handling the Committee amendments to LB 173. Do you have any input? The question is shall the Committee Amendments be adopted? All those in favor of the motion say aye. Those opposed say no. So ordered. The Committee amendments are adopted. Senator Maresh back to you.

SENATOR MARESH: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, what this bill does it says that any child below 12 years of age entering public school or private school shall be inoculated against the diseases that are provided in this bill unless the parent writes a written statement to the school authorities that they do not wish to have their child immunized. This bill had no opposition at the hearing. Several people, in fact, you can see on the report that many appeared in favor of this bill and I passed out an article from the Lincoln Journal that appeared about the time...before the bill was heard and it presents a problem that appears in the state of Nebraska. Some counties have a very low immunization record. In fact, Buffalo county has only a 37.8% immunization record. At the present time, school boards are allowed to pass rules that say that the child must be immunized before they enter public school, and the state of Kansas has a bill such as this that says that all children below the age of 12 must be immunized unless a written statement is provided by the parents. Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I move that this bill be advanced to E & R Initial.

SPEAKER: We have before us the...we have before us the Committee amendments at this time, and the motion is to adopt the Committee amendments. Is there any further discussion of the Committee amendments? All those in favor of adopting the Committee amendments say aye. Those opposed say no. So ordered. Now, Senator Maresh back to you.

SENATOR MARESH: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I move that the bill as amended be advanced to E & R Initial.

SPEAKER: Any further discussion of the bill. The question now is shall LB 173 be advanced from General File to E & R Initial. Senator Whitney, are you up to speak on the bill?

SENATOR WHITNEY: I'd like to ask Senator Maresh a question.

SPEAKER: Senator Maresh, will you yield to a question?

SENATOR MARESH: Yes, I will.

SPEAKER: Thank you.

SENATOR WHITNEY: I've been busy with other things and so I